

25X1A

COUNT Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Cottbus Airfield

25X1X

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT 28 April to 15 May 1952

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

16 June 1952

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

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1. During the period from 28 April to 7 May 1952, no activity was observed at Cottbus airfield. In the last days of April, Soviet soldiers carrying suitcases were repeatedly observed at Cottbus railroad station. The air force officers and NCOs wore a golden ribbon around their caps. (1) Three houses near the AA gun emplacement were evacuated. According to the chief of the housing office, the Russians did not allow civilians to reoccupy these houses because of the possibility of espionage. (2) On 7 May, the field was occupied by the following aircraft: 6 Pe-2s in front of the flight control station; 2 type-27 jet bombers and 1 type-30 jet bomber west of the flight control building; 14 to 16 Pe-2s in U-shape arrangement in front of the western hangar; 2 B-25s in front of the edge of the woods; and additional planes in the woods having types and numbers which could not be identified. (3)

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3. Between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 12 and 13 May, jet bombers in units of two or three flying at altitudes of up to and above 6,000 meters. Two type-27s had the numbers 22 and 30, and one type-30 had the red number 02. (4) Between 4:45 and 5:30 p.m. on 15 May, no change was observed in the occupation of the field. The AA gun emplacement was unoccupied. Four 85-mm AA guns which were not emplaced and the following 12 trucks were observed south of the house on the highway

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Comments.

- (1) The significance of the golden ribbons around the caps of the soldiers is not known. The information does not indicate whether the soldiers observed at the railroad station had arrived or were going to leave. No changes were observed at Cottbus airfield after 7 May 1952.
 - (2) According to a previous report, a heavy AA battery of the 32d AAA Div is in contact. Oder arrived at Cottbus airfield on 18 April 1952. See 25X1A
- According to another report, this battery was emplaced north of the road along the road which extends along the northeastern edge of the field. See 25X1A

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- (3) The reported number of aircraft agrees with previous information from other sources. The unidentified aircraft in the woods are probably Po-2s. Another source observed a total of 40 Po-2s at the field on 12 April. See [redacted]
 - (4) The regiment continues retraining with jet bombers. Since almost all flights were made by Po-2s during the preceding weeks it appears that the regiment is primarily engaged in retraining. The aircraft numbers observed were previously reported by other sources. The red numbers indicate that the aircraft were turned over to the regiment in Cottbus by the bomber regiment in Brandenburg.
 - (5) It cannot be inferred from this information whether it is intended to displace the AA guns. The house on the highway is indicated north of the field on Map GS28 4411, Sheet 4251.

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